

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 TRSE-00 /015 W

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HABUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9259

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THE HAGUE 5990

S/M FOR AMB VANCE; EUR/WE FOR BEIGEL

DEPT PASS CUSTOMS AND DEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, NL

SUBJ: JURISDICTION OF REGIONAL DEA AND CUSTOMS OFFICES

REF: BONN 18072

1. THERE HAVE BEEN TWO CASES RECENTLY WHERE PERSONNEL OF REGIONAL DEA AND CUSTOMS OFFICES IN PARIS AND BONN HAVE OPERATED IN THE NETHERLANDS WITHOUT ADEQUATE NOTICE TO THIS MISSION. ONE WAS THE TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT OF DEA OFFICER EDWARD O'BRIEN FROM PARIS TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE IN THU HAGUE TO SUBSTITUTE FOR SAIC LOGAN AND SA LAGATTUTA, BOTH OF WHOM ARE AWAY ON BUSINESS. THE SECOND WAS THE TRAVEL BY US CUSTOMS REPRESENTATIVE BILL KANE FROM BONN TO ROTTERDAM OCT 27 TO COORDINATE WITH DEA, DUTCH CUSTOMS AND ROTTERDAM POLICE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SEIZURE BY DUTCH CUSTOMS OF 332.515 DOLLARS FROM A CHEVROLET VAN SHIPPED BY A US CITIZEN.

2. WE UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR TEMPRARY ASSIGNMENTS OF SUCH PERSONNEL IN THE NETHERANDS ON OCCASIONS SUCH AS THESE AND WE WISH TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE SUPPORT. HOWEVER IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE DEA AND CUSTOMS AND TO SAFEGUARD US INTERESTS IN THE EVENT THAT ONE OF THE PERSONNEL ON TEMPORARY DUTY WERE TO BECOME INVOLVED

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IN AN INCIDENT WITH POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES, AS WELL AS TO OBSERVE UNDERSTANDINGS WE HAVE WITH GON, IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR0US TO BE

INFORMED THROUGH REGULAR CHANNELS OF ANY SPECIAL DEA OR CUSTOMS ASSIGNMENTS IN THE NETHERLANDS. EXCEPT IN URGETN CASES WHERE NOTIFICATION BY TELEPHONE IS REQUIRED, WE WOULD PREFER NOTICE BY CABLE. SO FAR THERE HAVE BEEN NO PROBLEMS WITH DUTCH AUTHORITIES, BUT IT IS ONLY PRUDENT FOR US TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF POSSIBLE DUTCH SENSITIVITIES AND OUR OWN INTEREST IN KEEPING US ACTIVITIES HERE IN LINE WITH OUR UNDERSTANDINGS WITH DUTCH AUTHORITIES.

3. IT OCCURS TO US THERE MAY BE OTHER LEGAL COMPLICATIONS RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REGIONAL DEA AND CUSTOS OFFICERS VIS A VIS THE NETHERLANDS WHEN OPERATING WITHIN ITS TERRITORY. WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION ON THIS POINT WHICH WE ASSUME MAY ALSO HAVE RELEVANCE ELSEWHERE IN WESTERN EUROPE.
MCCLOSKEY

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